

Replication Package Readme for “The effect of child support on fathers’ labor supply”

By Pinchuan Ong
in the Journal of Labor Economics
October 2025

Data and instructions for access

8 datasets are involved in the paper:

- The Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)
- The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 (NLSY), including confidential geocoded data.
- The British Household Panel Survey combined with its successor the UK Household Longitudinal Study (BHPS+)
- The Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA)
- The Swiss Household Panel (SHP)
- The Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)
- The Current Population Survey (CPS)
- The American Time Use Survey (ATUS)

PSID data

PSID data extracts are available in the PSID Public Data Extract Repository maintained through the Open ICPSR initiative as extract [237141](#). The user needs to extract these data files into “raw_data/psid/extracts”.

NLSY data

The public-use NLSY data extracts are provided directly in the replication kit.

Confidential geocode data was used to obtain a more precise emancipation age (18 to 21 years old), matching based on the state that the respondent resides in. This geocode data may not be released in the replication kit. To access the geocode data, researchers must submit a proposal to and obtain approval for use from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The application procedure available on the National Longitudinal Surveys website: <https://www.bls.gov/nls/geocodeapp.htm>.

The replication kit is pre-set to run without the confidential geocode data. In this case, the emancipation age is set to the modal value of 18 for all NLSY observations. Results based on this less precise emancipation age are qualitatively similar. Should the user obtain the geocode data, the Stata do-file “dofiles/nlsy79/restricted_data_prep.do” generates the more precise emancipation age of all respondents. The output of the do-file “emanage_NLSY.dta” should be manually moved to the “intermediate_data/nlsy79” directory on the computer that the other data preparation and analysis codes will be run.

BHPS+ data

BHPS+ data used in this paper may not be released directly in the replication kit, but may be downloaded from the UK Data Service. The datasets used were:

1. Study Number 6614 - Understanding Society: Waves 1-7, 2009-2016 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009, 10th edition (August 2018).
<https://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-6614-11>. On download, please extract into the “raw_data/bhps/us” folder.
2. Study Number 5629 - British Household Panel Survey Consolidated Marital, Cohabitation and Fertility Histories, 1991-2009. 3rd edition (January 2011).
<https://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-5629-1>. On download, please extract into the “raw_data/bhps/bhps_marrfert” folder.

HILDA data

HILDA data used in this paper may not be released directly in the replication kit, but may be downloaded from the DSS Longitudinal Studies Dataverse. The DOI link is <https://doi.org/10.26193/YP7MNU>, and version 2 was used. On download, please extract into the “raw_data/hilda” folder.

SHP data

SHP data used in this paper may not be released directly in the replication kit, but may be downloaded from SWISSUbase. The DOI link is <https://doi.org/10.23662/FORS-DS-932-1>, and version 1.0 was used.

The annual work hours used for the SHP is provided by the Cross-National Equivalent File (CNEF), and is included in the SHP dataset. If that were to change, CNEF data can be obtained on application at <https://www.cnefdata.org/about/apply-cnef-data>. On download, please extract into the “raw_data/shp” folder.

SIPP data

The main source of SIPP data was the NBER Public Use Data Archive (<https://www.nber.org/research/data/survey-income-and-program-participation-sipp>). The relevant files are included in the replication kit. Note that cleaning of the SIPP data is a slow step, and requires a large memory and temporary space.

Several SIPP datasets available at the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) was used to supplement the NBER SIPP data. First, data in the Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD), a 1997–2002 follow-up survey of the 1992 and 1993 SIPP panel members, was also used in this paper. This data was available in ICPSR datasets 2917, 4336, 4534, 3806, 3954, and 4470. Second, some parts of the 1988 panel of the NBER data was problematic, and ICPSR dataset 9568 was used in its place. The ICPSR datasets were accessed under contractual obligations that preclude inclusion into replication package. However, they may be obtained directly from the ICPSR. To do so, register for an account at the ICPSR (<https://www.icpsr.umich.edu>), search for the 7 datasets (e.g. “dataset 2917”),

download the ASCII version of the files. Place the files “ICPSR_03954-V1.zip”, “ICPSR_04336-V1.zip”, “ICPSR_04470-V1.zip”, “ICPSR_04534-V1.zip”, “ICPSR_02917-V2.zip”, and “ICPSR_03806-V1.zip” into “raw_data/sipp/spd”, and place the file “ICPSR_09568-V2.zip” into “raw_data/sipp/1988”. There is no need to extract files from these folders; Stata do files will unzip the files as appropriate.

CPS and ATUS data

CPS and ATUS data used in the paper were obtained from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS). The relevant data extracts are included in the replication kit.

Main code description

This package includes all Stata do files used to process data, run analyses, and produce all exhibits in the paper and online appendix. Codes were run on Stata MP 8-core version 17 on a Unix server managed by a PBS Scheduler, with 150 GB of memory and virtually unlimited temporary disk space. A complete run takes around 8 hours.

The PBS Scheduler job script “run_cs.sh” used to produce all tables and figures is included in the replication package. This should be modified for the user’s environment.

1. Modify lines 1 to 6 and line 12 for the job scheduler used by the user’s server, or delete if no job scheduler is needed.
2. On line 9, set to 1 if the user has access to restricted NLSY geocode data and has moved the file emanage_NLSY.dta into “intermediate_data/nlsy79”.
3. Modify line 13 to point to the directory containing the Stata program.
4. Modify line 14 to point to a large temporary directory.

Data References

PSID

Panel Study of Income Dynamics, public use dataset. (2021). Produced and distributed by the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

NLSY

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. (2019). *National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 cohort, 1979-2016 (rounds 1-27)*. Produced and distributed by the Center for Human Resource Research (CHRR), The Ohio State University. Columbus, OH.

BHPS+

University of Essex. Institute for Social and Economic Research, NatCen Social Research, Kantar Public. (2018). *Understanding Society: Waves 1-7, 2009-2016 and Harmonised BHPS:*

Waves 1-18, 1991-2009. [data collection]. 10th Release. UK Data Service. SN: 6614, DOI: <http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-6614-11>.

Pronzato, C. (2011). *British Household Panel Survey Consolidated Marital, Cohabitation and Fertility Histories, 1991-2009*. [data collection]. 3rd Release. UK Data Service. SN: 5629, DOI: <http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-5629-1>.

HILDA

Department of Social Services; Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research. (2021). *The Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey, GENERAL RELEASE 20 (Waves 1-20)*, V2, ADA Dataverse, <https://doi.org/10.26193/YP7MNU>.

SHP

SHP Group. (2020). *Living in Switzerland Waves 1-21 + Covid 19 data + Beta version wave 22*. [Dataset]. Version 1.0. FORS - Centre de compétences suisse en sciences sociales. Financed by the Swiss National Science Foundation, distributed by FORS, Lausanne, <https://doi.org/10.23662/FORS-DS-932-1>.

Cross-National Equivalent File. (2020). Produced and distributed by The Ohio State University with funding from the National Institute on Aging (Grant: 5-R01AG040213-10) and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (Grants: 1-R03HD091871-01, 1-R03HD100924-01), Columbus, OH.

SIPP

National Bureau of Economic Research. (2018). *Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)*. Retrieved September 29, 2018. <https://doi.org/10.60592/z6cd-h481>

United States Bureau of the Census. (2000). *Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD), 1998: Public Use File*. Ann Arbor, MI: [distributor], 2000-12-04. <https://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR02917.v2>

United States Bureau of the Census. (2006). *Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD), 1999: Cross-Sectional File*. Ann Arbor, MI: [distributor], 2006-03-06. <https://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR04336.v1>

United States Bureau of the Census. (2006). *Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD), 2000: Cross-Sectional File*. Ann Arbor, MI: [distributor], 2006-08-03. <https://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR04534.v1>

United States Bureau of the Census. (2005). *Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD), 2001: Cross-Sectional File*. Ann Arbor, MI: [distributor], 2005-05-23. <https://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR03806.v1>

United States Bureau of the Census. (2005). *Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD), 2002: Cross-Sectional File*. Ann Arbor, MI: [distributor], 2005-12-15.
<https://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR03954.v1>

United States Bureau of the Census. (2006). *Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD) Third Longitudinal File: Data Years 1992, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001*. Ann Arbor, MI: [distributor], 2006-08-03. <https://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR04470.v1>

United States. Bureau of the Census. *Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) [1988 Panel]*. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor], 2002-11-08. <https://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR09568.v2>

CPS

Sarah Flood, Miriam King, Steven Ruggles, and J. Robert Warren. (2015). *Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Current Population Survey: Version 4.0* [dataset]. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota. <https://doi.org/10.18128/D030.V4.0>

Sarah Flood, Miriam King, Renae Rodgers, Steven Ruggles, J. Robert Warren, and Michael Westberry. (2021). *Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Current Population Survey: Version 9.0* [dataset]. Minneapolis, MN: IPUMS. <https://doi.org/10.18128/D030.V9.0>

Sarah Flood, Miriam King, Renae Rodgers, Steven Ruggles, J. Robert Warren, Daniel Backman, Annie Chen, Grace Cooper, Stephanie Richards, Megan Schouweiler, and Michael Westberry. (2023). *Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Current Population Survey: Version 11.0* [dataset]. Minneapolis, MN: IPUMS. <https://doi.org/10.18128/D030.V11.0>

ATUS

Sarah M. Flood, Liana C. Sayer and Daniel Backman. (2022). *American Time Use Survey Data Extract Builder: Version 3.1* [dataset]. College Park, MD: University of Maryland and Minneapolis, MN: IPUMS. <https://doi.org/10.18128/D060.V3.1>

Miscellany

Emancipation age of each US jurisdiction:

National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). (2018). *Termination of child support - Age of majority, 2015*. Retrieved Nov 4, 2018, from <http://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/termination-of-child-support-age-of-majority.aspx>.

Exchange rates:

OECD (2017). *National currency per US dollar*. Retrieved Dec 26, 2017, from <https://www.oecd.org/en/data/indicators/exchange-rates.html>.